

**MINUTES**  
**MICHIGAN STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
**October 25, 2001**  
**Romulus, Michigan**

Meeting noticed in accordance with Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976.

Present:      Barton LaBelle, Chairman  
                 Ted Wahby, Vice Chairman  
                 Betty Jean Awrey, Commissioner  
                 Lowell Jackson, Commissioner  
                 John Garside, Commissioner  
                 Brian Larche, Commissioner

                 Charles Krupka, Commission Advisor  
                 Jerry Jones, Commission Auditor  
                 Vickie Plummer, Executive Secretary  
                 Pat Isom, Assistant Attorney General  
                 Greg Rosine, Director  
                 Tom Maki, Chief Operations Officer  
                 Philip Kazmierski, Bureau of Urban and Public Transportation  
                 Wayne Niles, Bureau of Finance and Administration  
                 Jim Culp, Bureau of Highway Technical Services  
                 Louis Lambert, Bureau of Transportation Planning

A list of those people who attended the meeting is attached to the official minutes.

Chairman LaBelle called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. in the Wolverine Conference Room, Hilton Garden Inn, Romulus, Michigan.

**COMMISSION BUSINESS**

Commission Minutes

It was moved by Commissioner Awrey, with support from Commissioner Jackson, to approve the minutes of September 27, 2001, as submitted. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

Introduction of New Commissioner

Chairman LaBelle introduced Brian Larche, newly appointed Commissioner from Escanaba, and welcomed him to his first meeting.

### 2002 Commission Meeting Schedule

The 2002 State Transportation Commission meeting schedule was accepted as submitted.

## **OVERSIGHT**

### Commission/State Administrative Board Contracts and Agreements (Exhibit A)

Charlie Krupka, Commission Advisor, reported that Item 12 of Exhibit A has been withdrawn.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Wahby, with support from Commissioner Awrey, to grant approval to the Department to proceed with the contract process. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### Bid Letting Pre-Approvals (Exhibit A-1)

It was moved by Vice Chairman Wahby, with support from Commissioner Awrey, to grant approval to the Department to proceed with the contract process. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### Letting Exceptions (Exhibit A-2)

It was moved by Commissioner Jackson, with support from Commissioner Garside, to grant approval to the Department to proceed with the contract process. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

### Contract Adjustments

Jim Culp, Construction and Technology Division, reported on the contract extras and overruns, Exhibit B.

It was moved by Vice Chairman Wahby, with support from Chairman LaBelle, to approve the contract adjustments. The motion carried on a unanimous voice vote.

## **PRESENTATIONS**

### Director's Report

Director Rosine reported on the following issues.

Thirty-seven of the 62 county contracts for winter maintenance on the state trunkline system have been executed, with the remaining contracts signed and waiting for finalization. A statewide contract for salt has been executed by the State of Michigan and because salt is in tight demand this year, some local government agencies who did not participate in the contract executed by the state are now paying higher prices for their supplies. The Director assured the Commission that the counties contracted to perform work on state trunklines do have adequate supplies of salt.

The Bureau of Transportation Planning has developed an asset management guidebook to allow for better movement of traffic on surface streets. The guidebook is available to all local planning agencies and training sessions will be held across the state.

The State Transportation Improvement Program for 2002-2004 has been approved and distributed. Public hearings are currently being held on long-range planning for years 2001 through 2025. Once the hearings are finished, a report on the discussions will be provided to the Commission.

An American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) conference was held last month on asset management with Michigan being identified as a lead department in this area.

The Design Division has installed 12 continuously operating global positioning satellite (g.p.s.) receivers around the state as part of Michigan's spatial reference system. This system will be made available to all surveyors throughout the state.

The Office of Economic Development has re engineered their enhancement program and more information will be provided to the Commission at a later date. The program has typically had an annual call for projects which may change to a quarterly call.

The State Treasurer met with the House and Senate Fiscal Agencies this week to do a revenue forecast. A reduction of revenues, by 5-7 percent, will probably affect all state departments including MDOT. Once the Governor issues an executive order, it will go to the house and senate appropriations committees for approval/disapproval. The Commission will be informed of any consequences to MDOT programs. At this time, it is expected that transportation revenues will be reduced by 2-1/4 percent compared to what was budgeted for the year. Another consideration is that the federal transportation budget has not yet been passed.

Diamond grinding on I-275 has been finished, with some initial noise measurements done, and more measurements to be done in the future depending on the weather conditions. Once these measurements have been completed, a report will be provided to the Commission.

Commissioner Awrey reported that she drives this section of I-275 on a daily basis and noted the highway is exceedingly quieter. The Commissioner was surprised and disappointed that no one from the I-275 citizen group was at this meeting to thank the Department for doing this work.

A letter from the City of Ferndale was presented to the Commission expressing their concerns regarding a bridge at Woodward and 8 Mile Road, and requesting that an at-grade intersection be installed at that location. A briefing paper outlining MDOT's position on this matter will be provided to the Commission.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman LaBelle adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

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Commission Advisor